

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, the specification is objected to for the reasons set forth on page 2 of the present Office Action. Applicants amend the specification, as indicated herein, and Applicants believe that these amendments obviate the Examiner's objections to the specification.

Also, claims 1-5 are objected to for the reasons set forth on page 2 of the Office Action. Applicants amend claims 1-5, as indicated herein, and Applicants believe that these amendments obviate the Examiner's objections to claims 1-5.

Claims 1-12 are all the claims pending in the application, claims 10-12 having been added as indicated herein. Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that dependent claim 7 contains allowable subject matter, and would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 1, 6, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Claims 1, 6, 8, 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Carlsen (U.S. Patent No. 5,509,062). Finally, claims 2-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Carlsen in view of Wu (U.S. Patent No. 6,442,266).

§ 112, Second Paragraph, Rejections - Claims 1, 6, and 7

Claims 1, 6, and 7 are rejected for the reasons set forth on page 3 of the present Office Action. Applicants amend claims 1, 6, and 7, as indicated herein, and Applicants believe that these amendments overcome these rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.¹

§ 102(b) Rejections (Carlsen) - Claims 1, 6, and 8-9

With respect to independent claim 1, Applicants amend this claim, as indicated herein, and submit that Carlsen does not teach or suggest at least, “initiating an operation of collecting routing information from the telecommunication system, related to the identification code of the callee terminal, after entering said identification code at the caller's terminal...” as recited in amended claim 1. That is, Carlsen simply shows that information is collected and stored at respective intelligent terminals, and then, later, a number is dialed at an intelligent terminal. See claims 1 and 2 of Carlsen. Differently, the present invention states that the operation of collecting routing information from the telecommunication system is initiated after entering said identification code. At least based on the foregoing, Applicants submit that Carlsen does not anticipate the subject matter of claim 1.

Applicants submit that dependent claims 6, 8 and 9 are patentable at least by virtue of their indirect or direct dependencies from independent claim 1.

¹ Applicants add new dependent claim 10 to reflect the features removed from rejected claim 6. Dependent claim 10 is patentable at least by virtue of its indirect dependency from independent claim 1.

§ 103(a) Rejections (Carlsen/Wu) - Claims 2-5

The Examiner rejects claims 2-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for reasons set forth on pages 5-7 of the present Office Action.

With respect to dependent claims 2-5, Applicants submit that these claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependencies from independent claim 1. Wu does not make up for the deficiencies of Carlsen.

Finally, new claims 11 and 12 are added to provide a varying scope of coverage. Applicants submit that these new claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 1.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

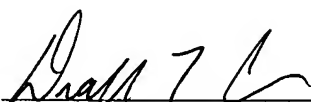
Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER


Diallo T. Crenshaw
Registration No. 52,778

Date: August 4, 2005